



**RESPONSE TO 2019 SURVEYS: “You said .... We did ....”**

**PARENTS**

| You said ....  | We did ....  |
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| <p>You wanted us to improve the sense of community and extra-curricular opportunities.</p>   | <p>Community spirit and belonging has been a key message since January with our students and the #TeamMaidenErlegh motto is used frequently when talking to students about what they are part of. We recognise that a sense of belonging is integral to success in development and academia and we will continue to promote this with them.</p> <p>In addition, we are aware that the current house system is not fulfilling the requirements it was initially set up to achieve. Therefore, this has been rebranded, reworked and relaunched which will involve all students, staff and departments to ensure that students feel part of that house. This has been proven in other schools to increase the sense of community and motivate students to participate in a full range of extra-curricular activities. We are very excited about this and it has started extremely well.</p> <p>As a school we are proud of our extra-curricular programme. We offer clubs and opportunities which represent a wide variety of areas and not just sport. To ensure we monitor participation in extra-curricular activities we have introduced a tracking programme which is monitored termly and if we believe there are gaps in participation we will attempt to resolve this. We believe that one issue in lack of participation is the awareness of what is being offered and from September we will launch a new way of communicating this to students and parents.</p> |
| <p><b>Homework</b></p> <p>You would like us to review how we set homework, so that we have one consistent system for all subjects.</p> | <p>As part of the school improvement plan, we have been reviewing homework and its purpose within the curriculum.</p> <p><i>Homework is set to ensure students make the requisite progress and deepen their learning by providing activities which contribute to students:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>being engaged and enthusiastic about their courses</i></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>developing good learning habits and cultivate self-discipline</i></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>becoming skilful, independent and resilient learners</i></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>committing to memory core knowledge, vocabulary and concepts</i></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>consolidating knowledge and skills</i></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>extending and deepening understanding</i></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>developing highly effective revision and rote learning skills</i></li> </ul> <p>The focus on homework over the summer term and into next academic year will be to develop strong independent learners, who are confident to read, research, revise and recall the topics that they are studying.</p>   |

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|   | <p>We have launched our new homework strategy to focus on developing these skills.</p> <p>We are also currently reviewing electronic homework systems, and whether we can use this effectively to set homework for all students. We hope a new system will be in place by October Half Term.</p>   |
| <p><b>Challenge</b></p> <p>You would like use to review the challenge for more middle ability students.</p> | <p>For the last two Academic years we have been focusing on challenge as part of the School Improvement Plan.</p> <p>This work has focused on techniques around students “Thinking hard” and challenge within the curriculum.</p> <p>This has led to an increase in expectation for all students, and the development of a curriculum which aligns with the increase in expectation for GCSE and A Level.</p> <p>As we move into next Academic year, there will be more focus on developing Independent learners, who become more confident in their reading, research, revision and recall. This where many of our middle ability students will benefit and gain confidence in then taking on the more challenging content.</p>   |
| <p>You wanted us to help tackle drug issues in the local community.</p>                                     | <p>As a school we acknowledge that nationally drugs use amongst teenagers is a growing issue. Through our PSMSC programme we deliver a wide range of drugs related topics enabling us to educate students about the harm they can cause, the risks they can create and the legal ramifications. This is delivered by teachers and guest speakers all of whom have training to ensure the message is clear and accurate.</p> <p>I was delighted to see so many parents at the parent workshops we offered in conjunction with Waingels and Bulmershe. Two conferences were linked to the issues of drugs and were extremely informative according to the evaluations we received. We intend to run more of these and some may focus on drugs again, especially those where we are looking to invite students to.</p> <p>Finally, we are also aware that doing nothing more on this issue does not improve the situation. As a Trust we are currently devising drugs strategy, in conjunction with outside agencies such as the police to ensure we are proactive in ensuring students make the right decisions in relation to drugs. More will follow in September on this.</p> |
| <p><b>Also you have also suggested ...</b></p>  |  |
| <p>Ensuring Maiden Erlegh Trust does not impact on Maiden Erlegh School.</p>                                | <p>The Trust are incredibly supportive as an organisation and allow Maiden Erlegh School to benefit in a lot of areas that would not be possible otherwise. In addition, as the Trust has grown it has opened up huge economies of scale which would not be available otherwise.</p> <p>Maiden Erlegh in Reading is now full for all 5 years and the movement of staff is minimal if at all between sites. The values of the Trust are embodied in our school and initially came from Maiden Erlegh School. As Headteacher I uphold these values but have Maiden Erlegh School at the forefront of my mind in all that I do.</p>   |